

Appl. No. 10/665,984
Amdt. dated May 18, 2007
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2876

PATENT

Amendment(s) to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs.. 1A and 1B. This sheet, which includes Figs. 1A and 1B replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1A and 1B.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for his courtesy and consideration in discussing this Application in a telephone interview and follow-up exchange on May 16 and 17, 2007. Applicants note with appreciation that in the Final Office Action dated May 3, 2007 ("Office Action"), claims 67 and 74-78 were allowed. In the discussions, the claims in their presently amended form were addressed. The Examiner agreed that the claims in their presently amended form were allowable, and that the amendments would be entered. The amendments above reflect this agreement.

Amendments and Status

Before this Amendment, claims 1-9, 12, 15-20, 23-31, 33-36, 41-50, 67, and 74-78 were present for examination. Claims 12 and 36 are amended. Claims 1-11, 13-14, 21-35, 37-40, 44-46, 51-66, and 68-73 are canceled. Therefore, claims 12, 15-20, 36, 41-43, 47-50, 67, and 74-78 are present for examination, and claims 12, 36, and 67 are the independent claims. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 67 and 74-78 have been allowed over the prior art of record. Applicants integrated allowable material (as indicated in the Office Action, p. 11) into independent claims 12 and 36 to render them allowable.

In light of these amendments, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 12, 36, and 67 are allowable for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 15-20, 41-43, 47-50, and 74-78 each depend from these independent claims, and these claims are believed allowable for at least the same reasons as given above. Applicants respectfully request that any rejections to the remaining claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

/Michael L. Drapkin/

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Attachments
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